



HOMELESSNESS

California is facing a homelessness epidemic across the state, which threatens our collective moral responsibility to the most vulnerable among us. This crisis increasingly become a public health crisis, which is exacerbated by a health care system that does not adequately serve individuals with mental illness.

The Budget, passed by the Legislature and signed by Governor Newsom, includes a historic \$1 billion investment to address homelessness, including:

- \$650 million to local governments for homelessness emergency aid for emergency shelter construction, rapid rehousing, and other innovative approaches to move individuals into stable housing situations, such as jobs programs for homeless individuals and hotel/motel conversions
- \$265 million for mental health supports, which includes expanding Whole Person Care services that provide wrap-around health, behavioral health and housing services, and building strategies to address the shortage of mental health professionals in the public mental health system
- \$52.9 million for student rapid rehousing and basic needs initiatives for students in the University of California, California State University, and California Community College systems
- \$25 million for Supplemental Security Income advocacy
- \$20 million for legal assistance for eviction prevention, particularly for the indigent, homeless, disabled, elderly, and victims of domestic violence. This funding will provide grants to nonprofit service organizations to assist specifically with landlord-tenant disputes, including legal assistance for counseling, renter education programs, and preventing eviction
- \$25 million one-time funding to continue the Bringing Families Home program, a county-matching grant program focused on reducing homelessness among families who are part of the child welfare system

The Governor has taken action to address homelessness in California, including:

- Establishing a Homeless and Supportive Housing Advisory Task Force to consult with local and regional governments around the state to assess best practices and strategies relating to prevention, diversion and intervention, as well as guiding local governments as they develop joint regional plans to address homelessness
- Deploying over \$500 million in "No Place Like Home" program bonds, to fund permanent supportive housing and services for individuals with mental illness that are homeless or at risk of homelessness

2019-2020 CALIFORNIA BUDGET

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